PATENT IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Docket Number: A01042 US

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In re application of: Eric G. Lundquist, et al.

Scrial No.: 09/932,865

Batch No:

Group Art Unit: 1711

Filed: August 17, 2001

Examiner: Jeffrey C. Mullis

For: MATRIX AND PROCESS FOR POLYOLEFIN PRODUCTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION PURSUANT TO 37 C. F. R. §1.1111

Dear Examiner:

This is in response to the Office Action in the above identified application dated January 12, 2004. The response is filed on behalf of the Applicants under 37 C. F. R. §1.34. Applicants thank the Examiner for granting an interview to discuss the invention on its merits February 17, 2004, pursuant to 37 C. F. R. §1.133. Claims 1-6 are pending in the above-mentioned application. Claims 7-20 are withdrawn from consideration per a restriction requirement. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider claims 1-6 of the above identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks, new claims 21-23 on their merits and to pass all the above mentioned claims to allowance at this time.

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Support for the amendments is found at page 7, lines 27 to 29; at page 8, line 30 to page 9, line 32 and at page 11, lines 9 to 26.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the limitations of a claim must be taught in establishing a prima facia case of anticipation pursuant to 35 U. S. C. §102(b). Matisons et al. does not teach the Applicants invention as claimed. Matisons et al. teaches supported metallocenes prepared by reacting silica with a vinylsilane followed by reaction with a hydrozirconocene. Thus, independent claim 1 and dependent claims 3-6 as amended are patentable over the prior art document of record. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's arguments with respect to the §102(b) rejection have been obviated for amended claims 1 and 3-6.

If the Examiner finds that there are some remaining issues to be resolved, Applicants would appreciate the Examiner to grant them a discussion or another interview pursuant to 37 C. F. R. §1.133, to clarify any issues and to place the Application in better condition for allowance. Please charge any fees associated with this response to Deposit Account No. 18-1850. Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned to discuss any issues related to this application by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Stephen E. Johnson Attorney/Agent for Applicants Reg. No. 45,916

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Rohm and Haas Company 100 Independence Mall West Philadelphia, PA 19106-2399 June 12, 2004